



**Federal Aviation
Administration**

**Public Teleconference on the Results of Recent FAA-
sponsored Testing of Nitrous Oxide (N₂O) Characteristics
Thursday, February 28, 2013
1:00 – 2:30 p.m. EST**

Call-In Information

Participant Access Code: 1006743#

Conference Dial-In Number: (605) 475-4700

Help Line for Problems with Connection: (877) 482-5838

The purpose of this Public Teleconference is to share with the public results of recent FAA sponsored testing of nitrous oxide (N₂O) characteristics. Nitrous oxide is an important oxidizer to developers of some commercial reusable launch vehicles. A potential hazard in nitrous oxide storage and handling is a Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion (BLEVE), which results from a sudden loss of pressure in a tank containing nitrous oxide stored under pressure above its normal boiling point. The FAA's Office of Commercial Space Transportation sponsored tests of liquid-phase nitrous oxide at NASA's White Sands Test Facility to empirically determine the superheat limit temperature for nitrous oxide, and to demonstrate that a BLEVE would not occur if the liquid is maintained at temperatures below this superheat limit temperature.

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